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blindness as with the training of children who are so defective in sight that they are likely to be classified as quite blind. The report points out the dangers of leaving the solution of the problem of dealing with such children to the ordinary agencies. The school is very likely to treat as absolutely blind a great many children who could be rescued if they had expert treatment, especially early in life.

The report is full of pictures which show how the work has been successfully done at a number of centers. Descriptions are given of different kinds of occupations open to the people who are partially blind.

The report is intended to stimulate educators and communities to see the possibilities along these lines and to secure expert help in applying the new methods of instruction to local needs.

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*Documents on teachers' salaries.*—Boston has given the school systems of the country a very good example of the way in which to carry on a campaign for the increase of teachers' salaries. A large body of evidence with regard to salaries in the city and in other cities has been brought together and published as a basis for the readjustment of salaries in Boston.<sup>1</sup> The material applies primarily to the larger cities of the country but will be useful to any superintendent who is looking for detailed information on which to base a report to his own school board about the economic conditions which obtain in the teaching profession.

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*Plans for the expansion of the Bureau of Education.*—The first section<sup>2</sup> of the report of the Commissioner of Education has been printed separately and is now being circulated in advance of the appearance of the full volume. The special significance of this statement to the secretary of the Department of the Interior at this time is that there are many efforts being made in Washington to reorganize the relations of the federal government to general education. For example, there is at this time a bill in Congress providing for the transfer of the Bureau of Education to the Department of Labor. This is part of a general movement which is said to have powerful backing among the engineers for the conversion of the Department of the Interior into a department of public works. All the bureaus of the present Department of the Interior are slated for transfer by the advocates of this movement.

Other bills, as everybody knows, are before Congress providing for Americanization, the elimination of illiteracy, and other national educational problems. The Commissioner of Education has surveyed these various enterprises in his preliminary statement and advocates the enlargement of the Bureau of Education by the appointment of numerous supplementary officers who shall be prepared to take up the duties covered in many of the other bills now before Congress.

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<sup>1</sup> "Increased Salaries for Teachers and Members of the Supervising Staff of the Boston Public Schools," Pp. 47. "Salaries of Public School Teachers in Cities of over 200,000 Population in the United States and in Selected Cities and Towns in Massachusetts," *School Document No. 19*. Pp. 96. Boston: Boston Public Schools, 1919.

<sup>2</sup> *Statement of the Commissioner of Education to the Secretary of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1919.* Washington: Government Printing Office, 1919. Pp. 67.

One concrete example of the enlargement of the bureau which the Commissioner of Education thinks should be made permanent is presented as follows:

"An appropriation of \$40,000 a year to enable the Bureau of Education to continue the School Board Service Division, established and maintained through the last half of the fiscal year with the help of an allotment from the President's fund for the national security and defense, for the purpose of assisting boards of education of city and country schools and boards of trustees of universities, colleges, normal schools, and technical schools in finding teachers of the grade and kind that are sought from the country at large rather than from local communities. The emergency for the relief of which this division was established is now and will remain for several years almost as great as it was before the signing of the armistice and the beginning of the return of men from the Army and of men and women from the industries connected with the war. The great industrial development which must follow the establishment of peace and the unusually high wages paid in the industries will continue to attract many teachers from the schools, and even when conditions have become more normal there will still be great need for the service which only such an agency as this can render."

[Pages 64 and 65.]

Educational people have grown discouraged with the slow development of the Bureau of Education. There is very little probability that the other measures now before Congress will result in any very prompt relief from the unfortunate educational conditions in which the country finds itself after the war. It will be a grievous disappointment to all who see the possibilities of effective action presented by the commissioner's program if in the midst of the many proposals for federal organization of education nothing is accomplished in the direction of an enlargement of the country's school program. There ought to be a coming together in some form or other of the various interests that are represented by the different bills so that some positive result may come out of the campaigns which are now being made for an enlargement of federal education.

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## II. CURRENT PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED DURING THE PAST MONTH

### A. GENERAL EDUCATIONAL METHOD, HISTORY, THEORY, AND PRACTICE

*Child Welfare in Kentucky.* Under the direction of Edward N. Clopper. New York: National Child Labor Committee, 1919. Pp. 322. \$1.25.

EARNEST, W. W. *A War Catechism: Questions and Answers Concerning the Great World War.* Champaign, Illinois: W. W. Earnest, Superintendent of Schools. Without cover, \$0.15; in quantities, \$0.10 each. With cover, \$0.20; in quantities, \$0.12 each.

HATHAWAY, WINIFRED. "Manual for Conservation of Vision Classes," *National Committee for the Prevention of Blindness Publications No. 18.* New York: National Committee for the Prevention of Blindness, 1919. Pp. 108. \$0.50.